

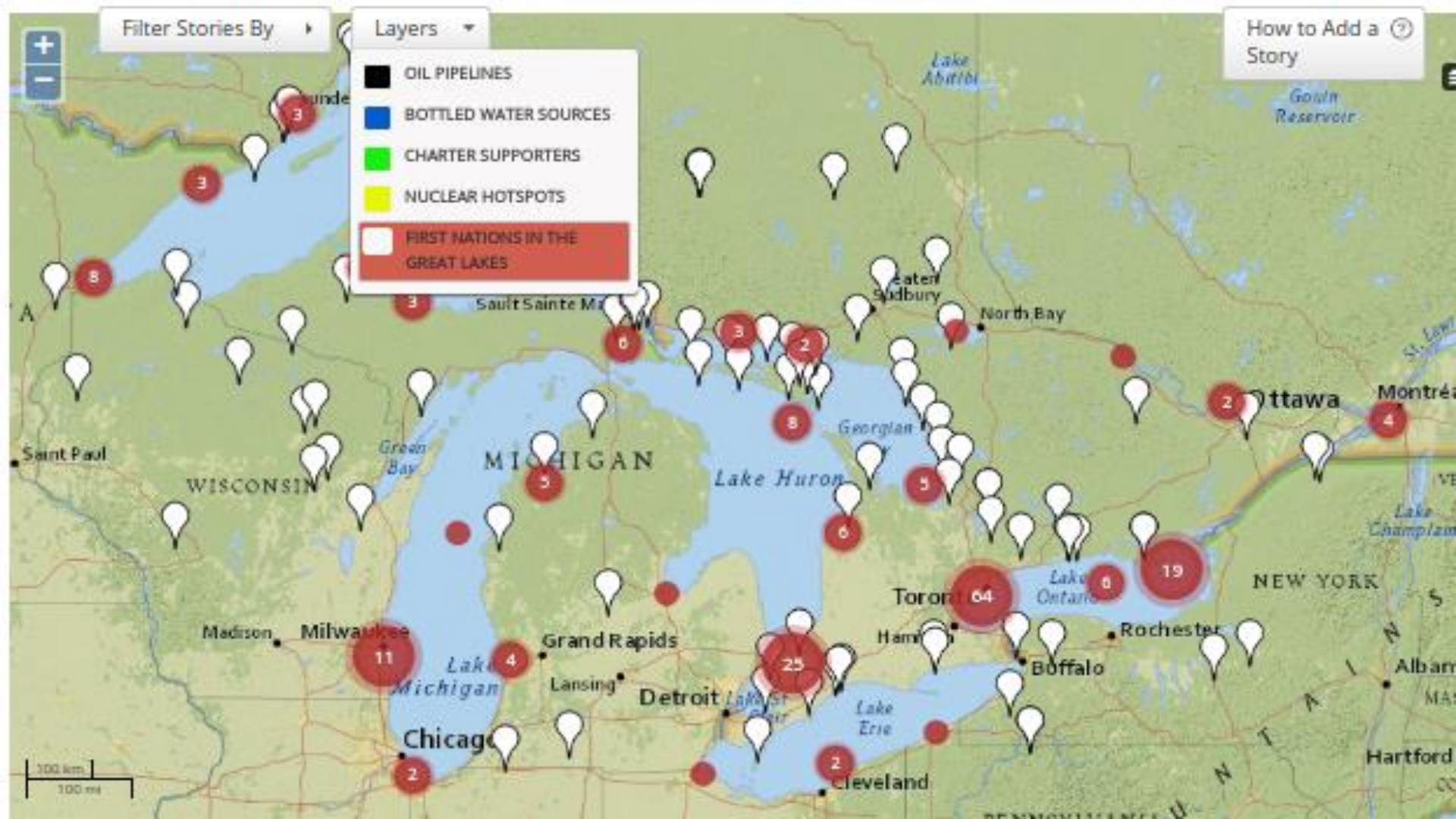


Filter Stories By

Layers

How to Add a Story ?

-  OIL PIPELINES
-  BOTTLED WATER SOURCES
-  CHARTER SUPPORTERS
-  NUCLEAR HOTSPOTS
-  FIRST NATIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES





# GREAT LAKES COMMONS

The Great Lakes Commons is a grassroots effort to establish the waters as a shared and sacred commons because they:

- are the source of our wellbeing & identity
- work as one interdependent whole connecting their health with ours
- are a gift & multi-generational responsibility
- are sustained by Indigenous nations throughout the ages
- obligate nations into shared decision making through honorable treaty



They hang the man and flog the woman  
That steal the goose from off the Common,  
But let the greater villain loose  
That steals the Common from the goose.

The law demands that we atone  
When we take things we do not own,  
But leaves the Lords and Ladies fine  
Who take things that are yours and mine.

The law locks up the man or woman  
Who steals the goose from off the Common,  
And geese will still a Common lack  
Til they go and steal it back.

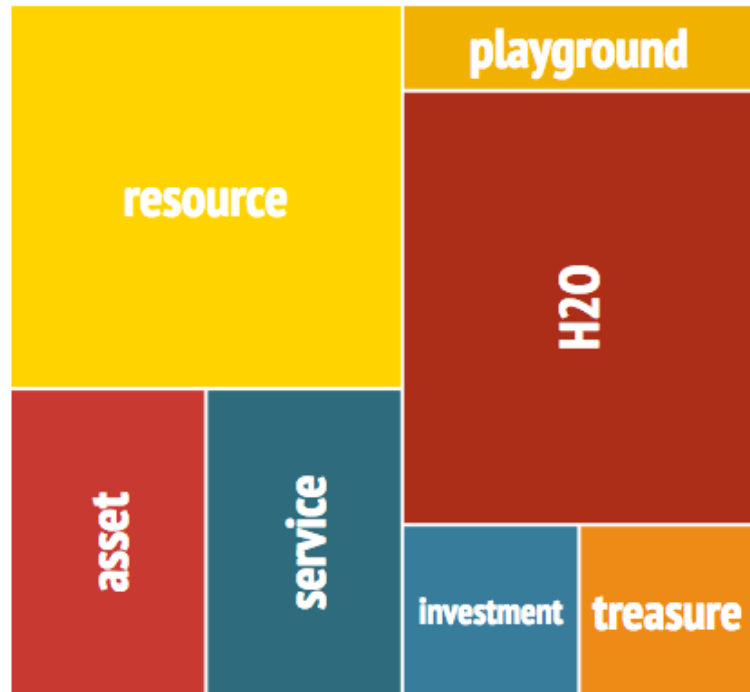


[www.GreatLakesCommonsMap.org](http://www.GreatLakesCommonsMap.org)

-- English folk poem, circa 1764

## how do we talk about water?

● COMMON ○ COMMONS

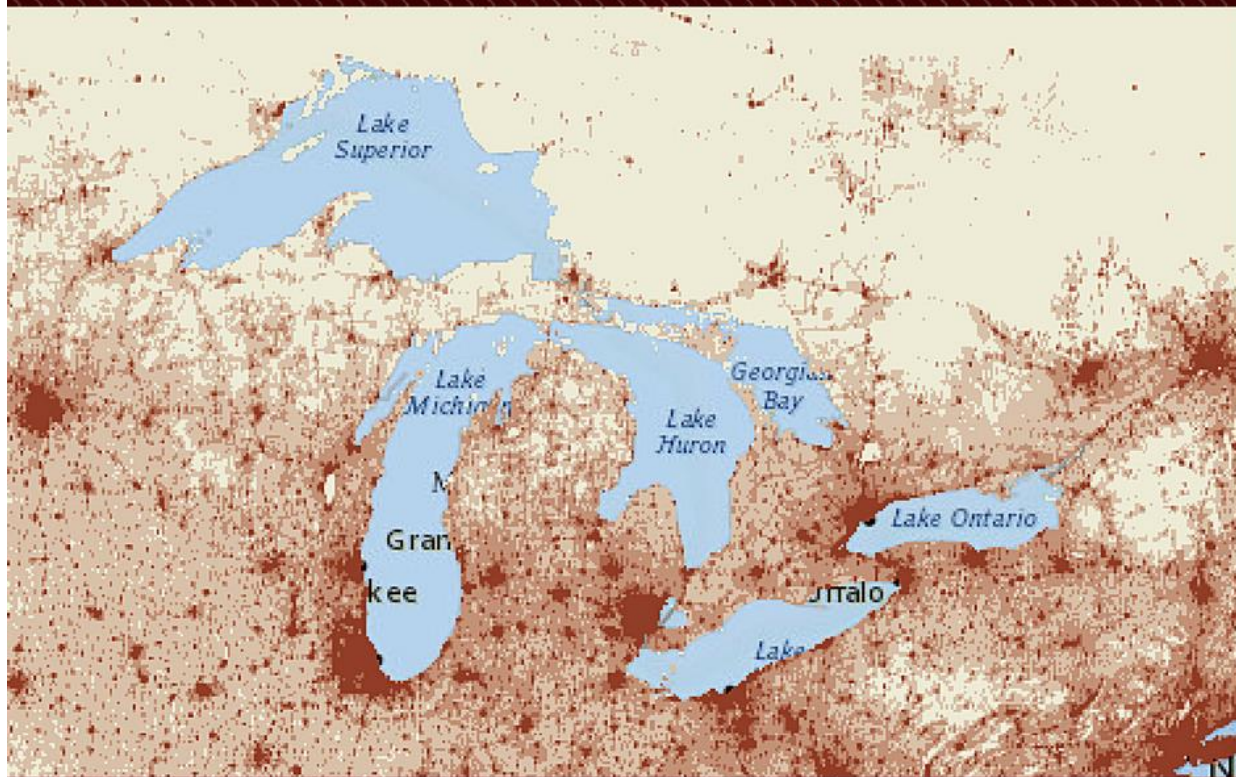


## how do we talk about water?

○ COMMON ● COMMONS

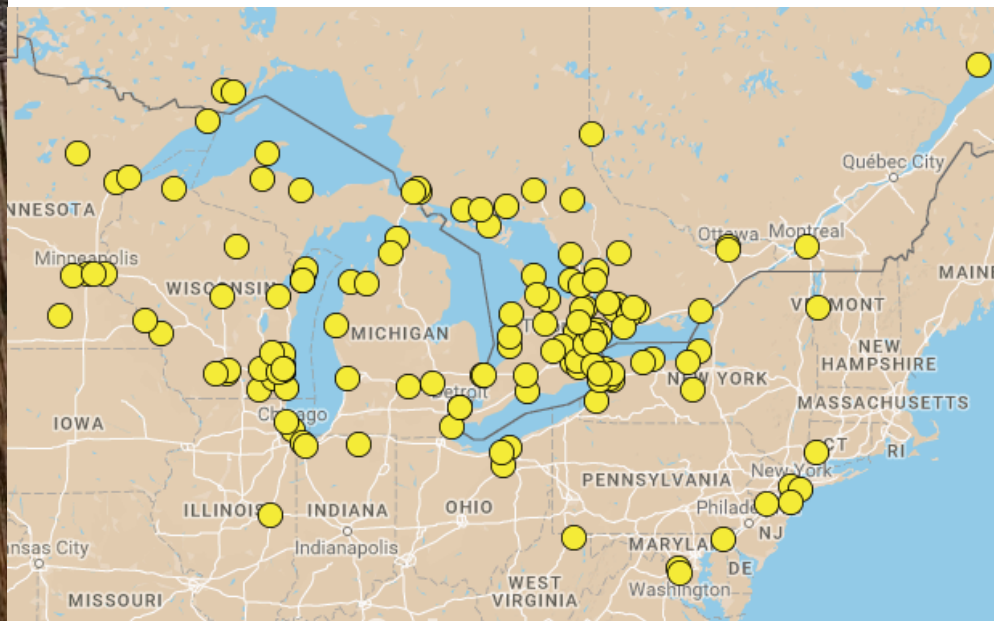
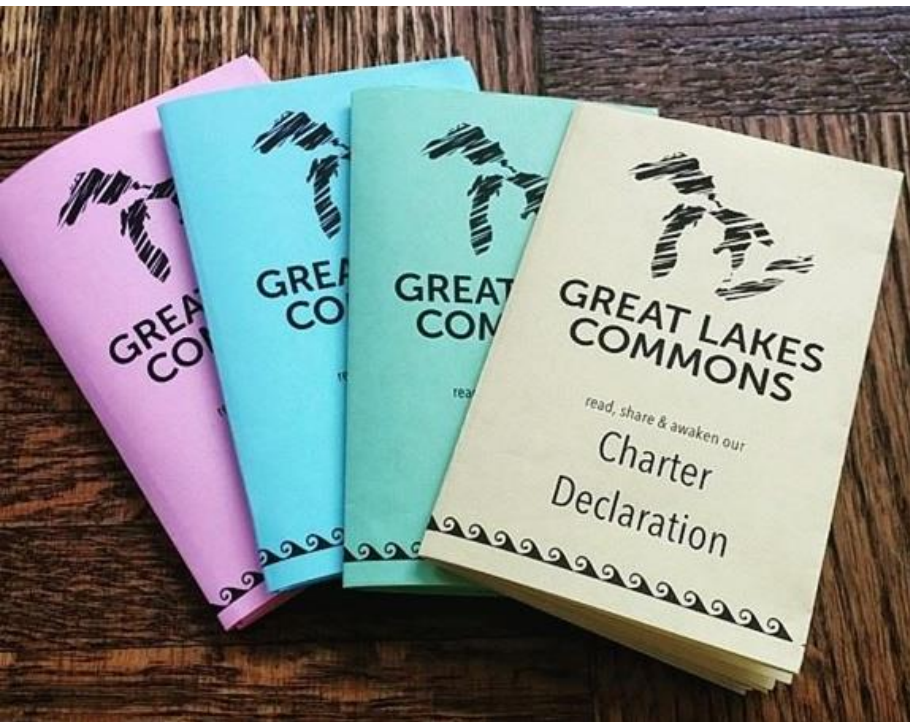


**That awkward moment you realize**



**that someone else's rules and risks for  
water pollution directly affect you.**







Since Canada and the USA are treaty nations, why are they not (with their related states, provinces and municipalities) making all water governance decisions with their Great Lakes treaty partners -- the Anishinabek and Haudenosaunee nations?



Great Lakes Commons

Why are municipalities (and their taxpayers) paying to recycle millions of plastic water bottles, while their own waterworks systems are decades and billions behind for capacity and quality upgrades?



Great Lakes Commons

# GIVING GRATITUDE

appreciate  
celebrate  
respect  
reciprocate  
reconnect

# SEEKING KNOWLEDGE

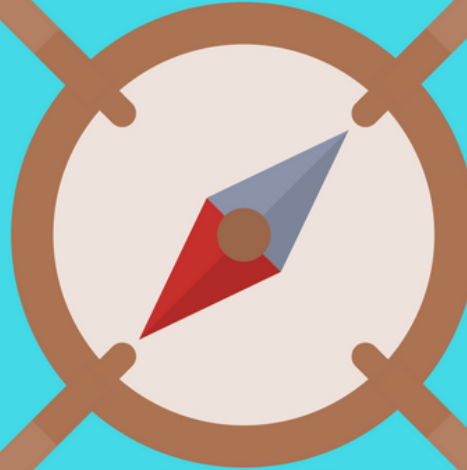
learn about water  
geography  
science  
traditions  
rules  
impacts  
perspectives  
learn from water

# SHARING THE GIFT

keep affordable  
keep accessible  
honor treaty sovereignty  
share decision making  
protect for future generations

# PROMOTING VITALITY

restore health  
respect limits  
limit harm  
spur diversity







2017

# G R E A T L A K E S COMMONS CURRENCY

VALUE RISES WHEN THE WATERS SHINE



Water Friendship project

3 Ontario Communities

What does a good relationship with water look like?

Indicators for policy, curriculum, and campaigns focusing on the quality of our relationship --not water quality.

Results in November - scale/adapt to your needs







## **VIOLENCE ON THE LAND, VIOLENCE ON OUR BODIES**

Building an Indigenous Response  
to Environmental Violence



Thanks and keep in touch:

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[www.GreatLakesCommons.org](http://www.GreatLakesCommons.org)